

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COUNCIL.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Council will be held in the Council Room of the Association, at No. 429, Strand (corner of Agar Street), London, on Wednesday, the 26th day of October next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

September 29th, 1892.

LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are reminded that the Library and Writing Rooms of the Association are now fitted up for the accommodation of the Members in commodious apartments, at the Offices of the Association, 429, Strand. The rooms are open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Members can have their letters addressed to them at the Office.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the Branch will be held at the White Hart Hotel, Reigate, on Thursday, October 13th, at 4 P.M.: Dr. Walters, of Reigate, in the chair. Dinner at 6 P.M.: charge 7s. exclusive of wine. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend, and to introduce professional friends. Agenda:—The following papers, etc., have been promised: Dr. Frederick J. Smith: Some Points in Heart Disease. Mr. Golding-Bird: Operative Procedure in Retention and Extravasation of Urine—a Clinical Study. Dr. Stone: A Case of Empyema. Dr. J. G. Ogle: Cases of Interest. Members desirous of exhibiting or reading notes of cases are invited to communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary, HENRY J. PRANGLEY.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of this District will take place on Tuesday, November 8th, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham: A. T. Franklyn Brown, M.B., in the chair. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to inform the Deputy Honorary Secretary of the District, E. Ground, M.D., 23, Gabriel's Hill, Maidstone, not later than October 20th. Further particulars will be duly announced.—E. GROUND, Deputy Honorary Secretary.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.—The autumn meeting will be held at Galashiels on Friday, October 14th, 1892. Members desirous of reading papers, or of bringing forward any questions affecting the Branch, are requested to give notice to the Secretary.—J. ALTHAM, Honorary Secretary, Penrith.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Sherborne on Wednesday, October 12th, 1892. The business meeting will be held at the Yeatman Hospital at 2.30 P.M. Mr. Williams will be pleased to see any members or friends at his residence, "The Cedars," Sherborne, to luncheon before the meeting. A conveyance will be at Penmill station to meet the 12.52 train and take members to Sherborne, returning for the 9.52 train. Gentlemen wishing to avail themselves of it should communicate with Mr. William Rendall, Maiden Newton, two days before the meeting. Agenda:—Election of new members of the Branch. Place of the May meeting. Dr. Lush will move: 1. That a donation of five guineas be granted to the British Medical Benevolent Fund. 2. That after the present year the Branch subscription be reduced from 4s. to 2s. 6d. per annum, and that by-law 4 be amended accordingly. Discussion:—Albuminuria, its Prognosis and Treatment. Communications:—Mr. Atkinson: A case of Double Labyrinthine Deafness, with interval of three months between the attacks—a doubtful sequela of influenza. Mr. Parkinson: Case of Hypospadias after Operation. Dr. Childs: On the Work of the Anæsthetics Committee of the Association. Mr. Marsh: Pregnancy in a Rudimentary Double Uterus. Mr. Charlton: Patient with Pulmonary Fistula (see *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, September 17th, 1892). Dinner at the Digby Hotel at 6.30 P.M.; charge 6s. each, without wine. Members intending to be present are requested to signify the same to Mr. Williams, Sherborne, on or before Monday, October 10th.—WILLIAM VAWDREY LUSH, M.D., Weymouth, and C. H. WATTS PARKINSON, Wimborne, Honorary Secretaries.

OXFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the Radcliffe Infirmary on Friday, October 28th, at 3.15 P.M. Members are requested to send notice of papers, cases, etc., on or before October 14th to W. LEWIS MORGAN, Honorary Secretary, 42, Broad Street, Oxford.

ABERDEEN, BANFF, AND KINCARDINE BRANCH.—The annual general meeting of the Branch will be held in Marischal College, Aberdeen, on Saturday, October 15th, at 12 o'clock noon. Visit to the new infirmary buildings at 11 A.M. Business: 1. Minutes, nominations, etc. 2. Ballot for admission of Dr. J. P. Watt, Aberdeen. 3. Council's report and Treasurer's balance sheet. 4. Election of President elect for ensuing year. 5. Election of two Honorary Secretaries. 6. Election of Honorary Treasurer. 7. Election of members of Council (*vide* Rule viii). 8. Selection of place for next June meeting. After the meeting the members are invited by the Medical Faculty of the University to visit the various laboratories and

museums, where a number of preparations, instruments, etc., will be shown. The annual dinner will be held in the Imperial Hotel, Stirling Street, at 3 P.M.; price (including attendance but exclusive of wine) 5s. per head. Those intending to be present at dinner are requested to send notice to Dr. Mackenzie Booth, 367, Union Street, Aberdeen. Members desiring cabinet photographs of groups taken at summer meeting, Old Meldrum, may obtain them from Mr. Veering, Union Street, Aberdeen.—J. MACKENZIE BOOTH and C. THISELTON QUHART, Honorary Secretaries.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The first meeting of the session will be held at the Town Hall, Hackney, on Thursday, October 20th, at 8.30 P.M. The chair will be taken by Dr. Favy, President of the Branch. Dr. Fye-Smith will read a paper on "The Rational and the Empirical Use of Drugs." Visitors will be cordially welcomed.—H. E. FOWELL, Honorary Secretary, Glenarm House, Upper Clapton, N.E.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.—The autumn meeting of this Branch will be held in the Town Hall, Preston, about the last week in November. Gentlemen wishing to read papers or communications, or show cases, are requested to write to Dr. Glascott, 23, St. John Street, Manchester, as soon as possible.—C. E. GLASCOTT, M.D., JAS. BARR, M.D., Joint Honorary Secretaries.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.—The autumn meeting of the members of the Yorkshire Branch will be held at Harrogate on Wednesday, November 2nd, at 4.30 P.M. Members intending to read papers are requested to communicate with the Secretary, ARTHUR JACKSON, Wilkinson Street, Sheffield.

NORTHERN COUNTIES (SCOTLAND) BRANCH.—The autumn meeting will be held at Forres, within the Station Hotel (Mr. Macdonald's), on Thursday, October 27th, at 11 A.M. when it is proposed to visit the Leachcoil Hospital recently opened for patients. Members desirous of reading papers or of bringing forward any question affecting the Branch are requested to give notice to the Secretary not later than October 15th.—J. W. NORRIS MACKAY, Hon. Sec., Elgin.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

MELBOURNE.

The Medical Act Amendment Bill: Rejection of the Proposal to to Reduce Medical Fees by Legislation.—Women in the Profession and in the British Medical Association.—Hindoo Child-wives.

THE attempt on the part of a few members of Parliament, to endeavour to obtain a reduction of medical fees, has been fortunately frustrated. On a division being taken it was decided by a large majority to avoid any interference in a matter which medical men could very well be permitted to arrange for themselves. It is fair to acknowledge that the debate was throughout temperate in character, and very fair in conceding to the profession those qualities of honour and sentiment which we ought to possess. The Medical Amendment Bill has yet to pass a few stages further before it is allowed to see daylight, so that it has many chances of assuming different shapes.

The next Medical Congress is to take place in Sydney on September 26th. Owing to the absence from Sydney of the President-elect, Dr. McLaren, a serious split among those forming the executive took place. It seemed to be a question of sides in favour of one or the other man for the position of president. Happily for the success of the Congress matters have been successfully arranged, and Dr. Sydney Jones has been elected to the position of President. I am told that great preparations are being made to render the occasion a memorable one.

Dr. Margaret Whyte, one of our lady graduates, has been unanimously appointed to the position of resident medical officer to the Women's Hospital. As this is the first occasion on which such an appointment has been conferred on a lady in this part of the world, Miss Whyte has every reason to believe that her name will be perpetuated for a considerable time in conjunction with this historical event. From telegrams received from London we are informed of the passing of the resolution which permits of qualified women joining the Association. Besides Miss Whyte there are a few other ladies who will avail themselves of this newly-acquired privilege.

An interesting paper was read before the Branch by Dr. Emily Ryder, a lady who has been practising among the female Hindus. The paper, which bore the title of "The Child-Wives of India," endeavoured to explain the social

position and customs of the Hindu woman. It was asserted that Sir Andrew Scobell's Act had failed in its working, and that the condition of these child-wives, as seen in the hospital, was something very heartrending. It was stated that it was a fallacy to believe that the Hindu reaches maturity at an earlier age than her Western sister. The fact is, she matures several years later. At 12 years of age the girls are slight, with narrow chests and pelvis. Owing to religious sentiment all women must be married and living with their husbands before the first menstruating period. A few of the cases admitted into the hospital nine days after marriage showed the left femur dislocated or fractured, the flesh round the genitalia in shreds, and perineal ruptures into the anus. Other cases presented similar conditions, with slight modifications. Dr. Ryder suggested that a Bill should be framed in which the limitation should be one of development rather than of age; while marriage might be allowed, cohabitation should be prevented until after a civil ceremony depending on an examination by a committee of matrons.

SHEFFIELD.

Opening of the Medical School.—Increase of the Water Supply.—Fire in a Hospital.—Small-pox and Travelling Vans.—Explosive Cops.

THE Medical School was opened by an address by Dr. Burgess.¹ It was preceded by the distribution of certificates and the presentation of the Simon Prize, which has been founded by the generosity of Dr. Hunter for encouraging the study of the causation of disease. The lecturers afterwards dined together, and spent a most enjoyable evening. The President of the Medical School (Mr. Favell) presided, and was supported by several colleagues from Firth College. During the vacation, additions of great value for teaching purposes have been made to the physiological department of the school.

The water supply of the town has always been plentiful, but it is pleasing to note that when the Damflask reservoir is completed it will add a further quantity of three million gallons a day, making a total supply of ten million gallons, or sufficient, it is computed, for a population of 500,000 persons, a number greatly in excess of that which there is any probability of the town reaching for a considerable time hence. The filling of this reservoir was commenced some years ago, but it was discovered to be not water tight, owing to the fissured and broken condition of a band of rock.

A fire broke out recently at the Jessop Hospital for Women. It occurred in an unoccupied ward, and appears to have resulted from disinfecting the ward with brimstone, and closing it up. The inmates were naturally alarmed, but it was soon explained that the fire was very limited, and that there was no cause for their fears.

A way in which small-pox—or, indeed, any other infectious disorder—may be spread is shown by a case mentioned just now at the Wombwell Local Board. A case of small-pox came in a van with people who sold cocoanuts for "shies at demon soldiers." They had been for some time at Denaby, where small-pox was prevalent. The authorities after this case stopped other vans coming to the feast, and ascertained where the inmates had come from, and inquired as to their health.

It is reported from the Chesterfield Hospital that a boy has again been admitted in consequence of injury to hand caused by the explosion of a cap. It is further added that three or four other cases have been admitted during the preceding few weeks from the same cause. Attention was directed in a former letter to the apparent ease with which children obtain these explosive caps, and the injuries resulting either to their eyes, faces, or limbs, etc.

MANCHESTER.

Opening of Winter Session at Owens College, Address by Dr. Broadbent.—Medical Dinner.

THE winter session of the Owens College Medical Department was opened on Monday, October 3rd, by Dr. W. H. Broadbent, of St. Mary's Hospital, London, whose address we publish elsewhere. From the annual report of the Dean of the Medi-

cal School we learn that the total number of students attending the department during the year 1891-92 was 423, of whom 134 are in preparation for the degrees of Victoria University, 62 for London University, and about 188 for the diploma of the Conjoint Colleges. In no year has the increase in the number of medical students been so great as the one just gone, there being an increase of 52 over the year 1890-91. In 1873, when the medical department was instituted by the incorporation in the College of the Manchester Royal School of Medicine, the total number of students was 134. The new buildings commenced some months ago to meet the growing requirements of the Medical School are approaching completion. A further appeal will shortly be made to the public, and to the medical profession in particular, for support in this undertaking, the success of which is of the highest moment to the College and to medical education in this part of the country.

The annual medical dinner of the Owens College and the Manchester Royal Infirmary was held in Manchester on Monday evening. Professor Dreschfeld presided, and Dr. W. H. Broadbent was the guest of the evening.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LATE SIR GEORGE MACLEOD.

SIR,—In the biographical sketch of my lamented friend and colleague on the General Medical Council, Sir George Macleod, the writer has fallen into an error which I beg you to allow me to correct. He states that Sir George Macleod was the only civil surgeon to whom the medal with clasp for Sebastopol was awarded. The late Dr. Robert McDonnell was "one of the men who afterwards became distinguished," and who was the worthy recipient of the medal and clasp for Sebastopol, and also the Turkish medal.—I am, etc.,

Dublin, Oct. 1st.

JOHN BANKS.

MORTALITY OF CHILDREN IN DUBLIN.

SIR,—The correspondent who supplies you with news from Dublin is not very reliable; he seems only to be acquainted with ancient history, and, so far as child mortality in Dublin is concerned, he has not brought it down to date. He says that the mortality of infants under one year old is greater in Dublin than in any town in the United Kingdom save Glasgow. He is egregiously mistaken, not only with respect to Dublin, but as to Glasgow, as the following figures show:

Mortality of Infants under One Year, 1890.

	England and Wales.	Twenty-eight English Towns.	London.	Dublin.
To 1,000 of the estimated population under 1 year..	149	173	164	162
To 1,000 births registered...	151	172	163	164
To 1,000 deaths registered...	233	241	233	166

For 1891 the Figures Stand:

For 1,000 of the population under 1 year	151	168	155	165
To 1,000 births	149	167	154	165
To 1,000 deaths	231	241	229	177

The death-rate of the Dublin population, as a whole, is much higher than the mean rate for the twenty-eight large towns, though it is less than the rate in some of the towns—Manchester, for example. In Dublin the death-rate of children under 1 year was (in 1891) 4.7 per 1,000 of the population of all ages; in England and Wales the ratio was 4.7; in the twenty-eight large towns 5.4; and in London 4.9. In Dublin infant life, at least in 1890 and 1891, was better preserved than in English towns, whilst the lives of persons over 1 year was less preserved.—I am, etc.,

CHARLES A. CAMERON,

Oct. 1st.

Chief Medical Officer of Health for Dublin.

* * In reference to the above, we are afraid that all we can say is that matters appear to have slightly improved recently, but are still very bad. There is no ground for comparing Dublin with the twenty-eight English towns taken in bulk, many of which are smaller than Dublin, and there are only about twelve towns equal to, nearly equal to, or exceeding Dublin in population, and which are fair standards for com-

¹ See page 788.